

What is claimed is:

1. A method of reducing fire hazard at a fueling station having a gasoline pump module, comprising:

preparing a caution sign having a touch area and instructions directing a person using the fueling station to place their hand on the touch area to discharge personal static electricity prior to pumping fuel,

placing said caution sign at said gasoline pump module at a height which permits the person using the fueling station to engage the touch area in a standing position and grounding said touch area of said sign.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said touch area has a resistance between  $10^6$  to  $10^{11}$  ohms.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein said caution sign includes fueling safety rules.

4. The method of claim 2 wherein caution sign includes instructions for conduct in event of a fire.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein said caution sign includes fueling safety rules.

6. A method reducing fire hazard at a fueling station having a gasoline pump module including an electric pump motor and a relay operated switch controlling electric power to said motor comprising:

placing a grounded static discharge touch area at said pump module at a height permitting hand engagement of said touch area by a standing person,

placing a motion detector near said gasoline pump module capable of detecting the presence of a person approaching said gasoline pump module to perform a fueling operation.

providing a speaker having a recorded message which is automatically delivered by said speaker when said motion detector detects the presence of said person; said recorded message instructing said person to engage said touch area to discharge his or her personal static electricity prior to engaging in a fueling operation,

providing a touch sensor at said static discharge touch area.

providing a control circuit for said relay operated switch.

providing an interruption switch in said control circuit having a normally open position and a closed position, and

connecting said interruption switch to said static discharge touch sensor, said touch sensor, upon sensing a hand upon said touch area, causing said interruption switch to close.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein said touch area has a resistance between  $10^6$  and  $10^{11}$  ohms.

8. The method of claim 6 and further comprising:

providing an attendant's cubicle near said pump module and

providing a signal device at said attendant's cubicle capable of generating a signal when activated,

connecting said signal device to said motion detector, said signal device generating a signal when said motion detector senses the presence of a person.

9. The method of claim 8 and further comprising

connecting said touch sensor to said signal device to generate a signal indicating a persons hand has engage said touch area.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein said touch area has a resistance between  $10^6$  and  $10^{11}$  ohms.

11. A fueling station of the type having a fueling module and an electric fuel pump motor comprising:

- a grounded static discharge touch area near said fueling module,
- a motion detector operable to detect the presence of a person approaching said fueling module,
- a speaker with a recorded message located near said fueling module, said motion detector causing said speaker to deliver said recorded message upon sensing the presence of a person,
- an attendant's module,
- a signal device in said attendant's module operatively associated with said motion detector, said signal device generating a signal to alert an attendant of the presence of a person when the presence of said person is sensed by said motion detector and
- a static discharge touch sensor at said touch area operatively associated with said signal device, said signal device alerting said attendant of the presence of a human touch of said touch area.

12. The fueling station of claim 11 wherein said touch area has a resistance between  $10^6$  and  $10^{11}$  ohms.

13. The fueling station of claim 11 and further comprising

- a source of electricity,
- a power supply lead from said source of electricity to said pump motor,
- an electric relay switch in said power supply lead,
- a relay lead connecting the relay of said relay switch to said source of electricity

and

a static discharge switch in said relay lead  
said touch sensor being connected in controlling relation to said static discharge  
switch so as to permit said gasoline pump to run only if said touch sensor senses human contact.

14. The fueling station of claim 13 wherein said touch area has a resistance between  $10^6$   
and  $10^{11}$  ohms.

15. A fueling station of the type having a fueling module and an electric fuel pump  
motor, comprising

a grounded static discharge touch area near said fueling module  
a touch sensor at said touch area operable to sense the presence of a human when  
touched by said human,  
a source of electricity,  
a power supply lead connecting said fuel pump motor to said source of electricity,  
an electric relay switch in said power supply lead  
a relay lead connecting the relay of said relay switch to said source of electricity,  
a static discharge switch in said relay lead having open and closed positions and  
an electrical connection between said touch sensor and said static discharge  
switch, said static discharge switch being closed to permit the flow of electricity when to said  
touch sensor is touched by said human.

16. The fueling station of claim 15 wherein said touch area has a resistance between  $10^6$   
and  $10^{11}$  ohms.

17. A motor vehicle with a chassis supporting an engine burning flammable fuel  
comprising:

a door having a window, a front end hinged to said chassis and a non hinged rear end, said door having an inside panel and an inside door handle on the inside of said door below said window, said door having an outside panel and an outside door handle on the outside of said door below said window, and

a static discharge pad on the outside panel near the rear end of said door and near said outside door handle, said static discharge pad having a resistance between  $10^6$  and  $10^{11}$  ohms.

18. The motor vehicle of claim 17 having a static discharge panel on the inside panel of said door near the rear end of said door, said static discharge panel having a resistance between  $10^6$  and  $10^{11}$  ohms.

19. In a motor vehicle having a chassis mounting an engine burning flammable fuel and having a plurality of doors connected to said chassis each of said doors having inside and outside door handles and inside and outside panels, safety apparatus comprising:

a static discharge pad on each of said outside panels, said static discharge pads being near said outside door handles and having a resistance between  $10^6$  and  $10^{11}$  ohms.